



## Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation

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CHARLIE BAKER  
GOVERNOR

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KARYN POLITO  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

JOHN C. CHAPMAN  
UNDERSECRETARY

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### Media Contact

Chris Goetcheus  
(617) 973-8767  
[Chris.Goetcheus@state.ma.us](mailto:Chris.Goetcheus@state.ma.us)

## The Office of Consumer Affairs and The Division of Standards Recognize Weights and Measures Week

**Boston, MA** (March 1, 2017) - The Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation and the Division of Standards announce the theme for this year's Weights and Measures Week is Tradition and Technology Drive U.S. Standards for Trade.

Recognizing the need for uniformity and accuracy in standards for commerce, President John Adams signed in 1799 the first legislative act passed by Congress related to weights and measures on March 2<sup>nd</sup> of that year. With continuous developments in technology, Massachusetts consumers past and present have been able to enjoy confidence in accurate measurements.

"More precise equipment is steadily being introduced into industry," said Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation Undersecretary John Chapman. "From familiar measuring devices such as a grocery scale and gas pumps, to the adoption of new technical standards utilized in alternative fueling systems, weights and measures continue to evolve to meet the challenges of tomorrow's technology and ensure consumers are still getting what they pay for."

The primary mission of the Division of Standards is to provide uniformity in the marketplace by enforcing standard accuracy requirements for commercial devices used in the weighing or measuring of any item sold by weight, measure or count. The Division also regulates the licensing of hawkers and peddlers, auctioneers, retailers of oil and motor fuel, transient vendors and motor vehicle damage repair shops, and event promoters. National Weights and Measures Week calls attention to the combined efforts of the Division, local inspectors, the National Conference on Weights and Measures, and the National Institute of Standards and Technology in regulating commerce.

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